

**MOUNT POCONO BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2015  
7:00 P.M.**

President J. Finnerty opened the Regular Meeting at 7:00 P.M. with the following members present: Vice President R. Gross; Councilmembers, F. O'Boyle; D. Casole; K. Davis, C. Williams and W. Jabara. Mayor F. Courtright, Solicitor J. Fareri and Borough Secretary/ Treasurer L. Noonan were also present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

**PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilmember F. O'Boyle moved to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of February 11, 2015, with the noted correction of the word "standing" to "scanning" on page 5 under Utilities. Councilmember K. Davis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**PRESIDENT**

President J. Finnerty thanked the road crew and Councilmember W. Jabara and the employees for making it in and working in such severe cold weather and snow we have faced the past few weeks.

President J. Finnerty discussed a recent article in the *Pocono Record* regarding the Belmont Knoll Senior Housing Complex and a resident there having to vacate her apartment as her son who is battling pancreatic cancer is not old enough to live there. He stated that we really have no control or authority over the senior housing project.

**MAYOR**

Mayor F. Courtright stated that he discussed the situation at Belmont Knoll and made a few phone calls to Senator M. Scavello who is looking into it and seeing what can be done if anything to help the resident at the Belmont Knoll Senior Housing Complex.

Mayor F. Courtright stated that he plans on walking in the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, and invited anyone else who would like to walk with him and to let him know so they can meet up and go together.

Mayor F. Courtright announced that he attended a Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts graduation ceremony this past Sunday, at the Mount Pocono United Methodist Church.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The following cash report was given as follows:

GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$ 201,865.62
PENN SECURITY GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT	20,692.71
CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT	48,627.33
BANNER BEAUTIFICATION ACCOUNT	2,032.89
STATE LIQUID FUELS	106,465.98
PARK & RECREATION FUND	11,004.90
PLANNING COMMISSION REIMB. FUND	51,925.54
ROAD FUND – GENERAL FUND	96,932.17
STORMWATER FUND	134,689.43
GENERAL FUND RESERVE PLGIT ACCOUNT	41,548.82
SANITATION FUND	8,430.46

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ROUTE 940 CORRIDOR FUND	\$ 53,675.00
FIVE POINT INTERSECTION FUND	<u>443,849.90</u>

<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,218,740.75</u></b>
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Vice President R. Gross moved to pay and approve the bills as outlined in the Treasurer's Report dated Monday, March 2, 2015, as presented. Councilmember C. Williams seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**BILLS TO BE PAID FROM THE GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT:**

ACE Hardware	(shop/ building supplies)	\$ 385.44
American Casualty Services	(workers comp ins)	1,841.22
Berkheimer Associates	(LST commission)	176.97
Blue Cross of NEPA	(health insurance)	8,491.49
Blue Ridge Cable	(phones/ internet)	91.85
Boston Mutual	(life/ disability insurance)	234.15
CPC Signs	(street signs/ posts/ tape)	1,922.74
H. Clark Connor	(PC Solicitor Jan & Feb)	600.00
D.G. Nicholas Co.	(exhaust fuel DEF)	65.70
Ehrlich	(pest control)	82.08
First National Bank	(small tools, supplies)	337.92
Fastenal	(washers for plow hitch & safety glasses)	27.20
Friedman Electric	(street light glove/ top replacement)	818.43
G & K Services	(uniforms/ rugs)	298.04
Gilmore & Associates	(engineer)	116.25
JNK Hydrotect & Extinguisher	(fire extinguisher inspection/ recharge)	141.70
EM Kutz	(plow parts)	81.06
Medico Industries	(cutting edges & parts for wheel loader)	1,296.83
Miller Automotive	(F-350 & F-550)	856.16
JoAnn Misuraca-Ficco	(supplies)	24.50
NAPA Auto parts	(vehicle parts)	141.66
PA American Water	(bldgs. & fire hydrants)	782.12
PA One Call	(service)	2.46
Payrolls Unlimited	(February payroll)	79.00
Pliociniak Oil	(heating oil both buildings)	3,553.12
Pocono Mtn. Reg. Police	(mortgage)	3,010.44
Pocono Mtn. reg. Police	(monthly payment)	57,216.66
Pocono Mtn. Public Library	(delinquent taxes – 1 mil)	348.85
Pocono Mtn. Vol. Fire Co.	(delinquent taxes – 1 mil)	348.85
Pocono Mtn. Reg. EMS	(delinquent taxes ½ mil)	174.43
<i>Pocono Record</i>	(advertising)	56.20
Quill	(office supplies)	219.15
Reliable Sign	(brackets & signs)	4,015.90
Response Computers	(computer problems – maint)	245.00
Selective Insurance	(insurances)	2,178.00
Steele's Hardware	(small electric heater – ZO)	84.99
Summit Welding	(new plow tilts – 2 trucks)	1,755.00
Sunoco (COSTARS)	(gas/ diesel)	2,518.04
Tulpehocken Spring Water	(water for coolers)	10.00
United Concordia	(dental insurance)	386.90
US Bank	(copier lease)	375.24
Verizon	(phone)	85.98

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Verizon Wireless	(phones)	\$ 129.61
Wal-Mart	(building supplies)	<u>78.86</u>

**GRAND TOTAL** **\$ 95,686.19**

**BILLS ALREADY PAID FROM THE GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT:**

Mt Pocono Payroll	(w/e 02/04/15)	\$ 6,563.58
Mt Pocono Payroll	(w/e 02/11/15)	6,423.21
Mt Pocono Payroll	(w/e 02/18/15)	6,412.72
Mt Pocono Payroll	(w/e 02/25/15)	<u>6,391.40</u>

**GRAND TOTAL** **\$ 25,790.91**

**BILLS TO BE PAID FROM THE STATE LIQUID FUELS ACCOUNT:**

Cargill	(de-icing salt)	\$ 20,852.94
Hanson Aggregates	(anti-skid)	2,253.77
PPL	(traffic signals)	<u>162.20</u>

**GRAND TOTAL** **\$ 23,268.91**

**Traffic Light Request – SR 611/ Center Avenue**

Borough Secretary/ Treasurer L. Noonan noted that she was forwarded from State Representative Jack Rader's offices a complaint that they received from a resident who lives at the Belmont Knoll Senior Housing requesting a traffic light to be installed on SR 611 at the intersection with Center Avenue.

There was some discussion regarding the traffic on SR 611 and the things that the Borough has done in order to slow traffic down. Councilmember W. Jabara noted that he will research and get prices to bring back to Borough Council on some other options possibly for us to consider.

**Praxair**

Councilmember K. Davis moved to open and set up an account with Praxair to supply oxygen and acetylene to the maintenance garage. Councilmember D. Casole seconded. Motion Carried unanimously.

**Bulk Grass Mowing/ Fertilize Quotes**

Vice President R. Gross moved to allow the Borough Secretary/ Treasurer to obtain quotes for the bulk grass mowing and fertilization of the fields prior to our next meeting. Councilmember F. O'Boyle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Borough Building Improvements**

Councilmember K. Davis moved to allow the Borough Secretary/ Treasurer to schedule a meeting with Wayne Vanderhoof of Schoonover and Vanderhoof to review the necessary repairs to the Borough building such as the handicap ramp. Vice President R. Gross seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**ZONING OFFICER**

Borough Council was in receipt of a Zoning Officer Report for the month of February noting that no permits were issued however he has had numerous conversations with two (2) applicants for auto sales which are now the Conditional Use Applications going before the Planning Commission. He has also had discussions with people about developing property in the Borough and he's working on rental inspections and the enclosures for the dumpsters.

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Borough Secretary/ Treasurer L. Noonan noted that she received the request from the Council of Governments (COG) for our vegetation control numbers and that is needed within the next day or two.

**SOLICITOR**

**PMRPD Litigation**

Solicitor J. Fareri discussed the Pocono Mountain Regional Police Commission's (PMRPC) current litigation. He noted that they filed a law suit in declaratory court to tell Coolbaugh Township to stay out of Commission business. Coolbaugh Township in turn filed an answer to that law suit. Solicitor J. Fareri explained that neither lawsuit is looking for a money settlement they are just looking for a determination by the court. Solicitor J. Fareri further explained with the response that Coolbaugh Township filed they also filed a law suit which brought in all the municipalities that belong to PMRPC, stating that the municipalities don't have the rights. Solicitor J. Fareri explained that the law suit was sent to our insurance carrier however we have no coverage for this type of law suit. Solicitor J. Fareri suggested that the Borough stay out of it and adopt the same response that PMRPC's Solicitor Harry Coleman will be giving.

There was some discussion regarding this procedure with Councilmember D. Casole questioning if it was a conflict of interest. Councilmember D. Casole stated that she was not comfortable using PMRPC's Solicitor.

Solicitor J. Fareri responded that there was not conflict for Harry Coleman to enter a response on behalf of the Borough.

Councilmember K. Davis moved to instruct Borough Solicitor J. Fareri to enter an appearance on behalf of the Borough and to adopt Pocono Mountain Regional Police Commission's answer. Councilmember F. O'Boyle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**PERSONS TO BE HEARD**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Annual Pocono Passion Procession**

Councilmember F. O'Boyle moved to allow the Most Holy Trinity Parish and the Reverend Jose L. Mendoza to hold the Pocono Passion Procession on Friday, April 3, 2015. Councilmember D. Casole seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**2014 Annual Report of the Mount Pocono Planning Commission**

Councilmember K. Davis moved to accept the 2014 Annual Report of the Mount Pocono Planning Commission as presented. Vice President R. Gross seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Conditional Use Applications**

Vice President R. Gross moved to hold a Conditional Use Hearing at 7:00 P.M. on Wednesday, March 25, 2015, regarding the 186 Sterling Road Conditional Use for auto sales and immediately following hold a

Conditional Use Hearing for 188 Sterling Road also for auto sales. Councilmember K. Davis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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**STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Planning**

Councilmember D. Casole noted that the Planning Commission meeting was held on Wednesday, February 18, 2015, the Commission re-organized with the officers staying the same: Mr. Kevin Kirkwood is still Chair and Mr. Rich Dorkoski is again Vice Chair and Zoning Hearing Board liaison is Ms. Patricia Farley. She also noted that they reviewed the Conditional Use Application for 186 Sterling Road for used car auto sales. She also noted that they are waiting to hear from DEP regarding the Air Quality Pollution Control Ordinance and a possible meeting.

**Water**

Councilmember D. Casole noted that PAWC has been very busy with frozen water lines and they have assured her that once the weather breaks they will be scheduling to install the water hydrant on SR 611 near Burke's Tavern.

Councilmember W. Jabara requested that Councilmember D. Casole ask PAWC if they have any plans to replace any water lines in the Borough so that we can plan accordingly with our road rehabilitation work for 2015.

Councilmember W. Jabara also requested that the Borough receive document needed on the expiration date for the Hirshland Development for our files.

**Stormwater**

Councilmember W. Jabara stated that it's too early for Borough Engineer D. Alker to go on our annual field trip to review the detention basins and ponds and he hopes to get that scheduled and completed once the snow is melted.

**Utilities**

Councilmember F. O'Boyle stated that an advertisement has appeared in the paper regarding the EDUs being available. He explained that there are fifteen (15) residential EDUs, twenty (20) commercial EDUs and fifteen (15) subdivision EDUS. He noted that twelve (12) of the commercial EDUs have been requested and one (1) residential EDU was requested.

**Streets**

Councilmember W. Jabara thanked Jim Trombetta and Diana Jackowski for all their work and help with giving Councilmember K. Davis on his report that he provided at the last meeting. A subcommittee meeting was scheduled for 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday, March 10, 2015, to review and discuss 2015 road rehabilitation for the roads to be paved or repaired this year.

**Sanitation**

Mayor F. Courtright requested that weekly report be maintained of any complaints that are received and if any Councilmembers are aware of any complaints that they advise the Borough offices of such.

**Buildings**

Vice President R. Gross discussed the ramp and a meeting being scheduled with the architect.

Councilmember W. Jabara noted that the lower garage needs to be insulated and also the Borough was looking to get natural gas lines to the Borough building and the maintenance garage.

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**Budget**

It was noted that the Budget and Finance Committee will try to meet before the next month's meeting to review our standings at the end of the first quarter of 2015.

Councilmember W. Jabara discussed pay wage increases for elected officials and noted that if Borough Council has a pay increase it would have to do it during the election year.

**Recreation**

Councilmember K. Davis noted that any money that was normally given to PARC should now be budgeted and spent for our Park & Recreation Board.

**Personnel**

No updates.

**Regional Police**

Vice President R. Gross noted that the next meeting will be Tuesday, March 10, 2015, at Tobyhanna Township. He also noted that a special meeting was held on Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, regarding the interest of Barrett Township in joining the Regional Police Department.

**Regional EMS**

Mayor F. Courtright noted that the Regional EMS meetings are held each month and all the meetings are open to the public. He also noted that they are currently working on a marketing plan in hopes to generate more understanding of how the organization works and hopefully obtain contributions.

**COG**

Councilmember W. Jabara noted that they held their first meeting this year last week on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. He also noted that the next meeting will be held on Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, it will be their Annual Spring Dinner meeting and at Smuggler's Cove. He further noted that they have decided to move the meetings around throughout county and the April 27<sup>th</sup> will be meeting here at the Mount Pocono Borough building.

Councilmember W. Jabara also recognized State Representative Jack Rader's aide, Tyler, who was in attendance this evening at our meeting.

Councilmember W. Jabara noted that COG is obtaining bids for field and guide rail spraying vegetation.

**Open Space**

No meeting.

**Five Points Intersection**

Councilmember W. Jabara noted that more work is needed at the intersection and the traffic loops were not completed and put back properly after the recent work that was completed on SR 196 last fall.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**Elias Dudash, Holly Forest Road**, discussed the population of the Borough and the number of abandoned houses in the Borough.

**Michael Oser, Fairview Avenue**, requested a copy of the list of delinquent accounts recently received by Borough Council from Kreitzer Sanitation. He also asked what seats of Borough Council are up for re-election.

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**Councilmember D. Casole** requested that Councilmember W. Jabara put up the dog waste signs at the intersection of Brunswick and Stonegate Drive.

**Councilmember W. Jabara** also questioned the Bracey traffic signal and where they are with that plan.

**Councilmember K. Davis** discussed tri-axel trucks or commercial vehicles parked in residential areas.

There being no further business or any further public participation coming before the Board, Councilmember D. Casole moved to adjourn at 9:30 P.M. Councilmember C. Williams seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Noonan, Borough Secretary